

To Chairs Senator Ed Meyer, Representative Richard Roy, Vice Chairs Senator Maynard and Representative Davis and Members of the Environment Committee:

My name is Jay Niland. I am a resident of East Hampton, Connecticut and I am in support of **Bill S.B. 830: AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF CERTAIN OUTDOOR WOOD-BURNING FURNACES.**

Since 2005, our family has had to live our lives based on the direction of the wind. That year our neighbor installed an outdoor wood-burning furnace (OWF), **75-feet** from our house and it was legal. General Statute 22a-174k was soon passed that year which stated all subsequent OWF installations had to adhere to strict siting requirements but the older units could still operate as is, where is.

Our neighbor operates a saw mill and burns the scraps in this OWF for heat and hot water; it is in operation all year long. When this device is not actively burning, it closes up, smolders and produces creosote. When it begins its active burning, this creosote and wood scraps burn and produce thick, noxious, foul tar-like smelling smoke which clings to the ground. My young children would run inside from playing yelling "toxic smoke, toxic smoke!" Even with windows closed up, the smoke particles permeate our home and cause headaches, sinus problems and nose, throat and eye irritation. One morning we were even awakened by the smoke detector going off in my 2-year old son's bedroom!

In 2007 the company for whom my wife is employed required she report to another facility and we needed to relocate. This wood fired boiler caused us to not sell our home because of the loss of value and the amount of time it would have taken to find someone willing to live next to this blatant source of air pollution. Ethically we also could not sell this house to another family and allow them to have to suffer and live their lives based on the direction of the wind, wondering if they were being inflicted with any long term health trauma.

Please heart-fully consider banning these pollution generators for the health of the residents of Connecticut.

Thank you for your time,



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